

REMARKS

Upon entry of the present Preliminary Amendment-C, claims 1, 5 and 8 is pending in the application, of which claim 1 is independent. Claims 1, 5 and 8 have been amended by the present amendment. Claims 2-4, 6, 7 and 9-17 have been cancelled without prejudice and without abandonment or dedication of the subject matter thereof.

Claim 1 has been amended by specifying that a positioning jig device for a vehicle body frame comprises a positioning jig holder mechanism for holding a second end of said positioning jig; and that the engaging member is swingable and extendable based on a position of the second end of the positioning jig corresponding to a desired attitude of the vehicle body frame set by the positioning robot, and the vehicle body frame is positioned and fixed by the positioning jig.

Claim 5 has been amended by specifying that the positioning jig holder mechanism has a support by which the engaging member is swingably and retractably supported.

Claim 8 has been amended by specifying that the engaging member is supported by the support while being retractable with respect to the second end of the positioning jig through a resilient member in order to absorb shocks that are produced when the second end of the positioning jig engages with the engaging member.

Applicant respectfully submits that the above amendments are fully supported by the original disclosure including drawings. Applicant also respectfully submits that no new matter is introduced into the application by amending the claims because since the entire subject matter thereof was expressly or inherently disclosed in the original claims, specification and drawings.

This Preliminary Amendment-C is being filed in order to expedite the prosecution of the application and to place the application in condition for allowance.

Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims 1, 5 and 8 of the present

application have been allowed in the corresponding Japanese Patent Application Number 2003-082134, by the Japanese Patent Office (JPO), as outlined in a separately filed Request for Participating in the Patent Prosecution Highway (PPH) Pilot Program between the JPO and the USPTO. Therefore, applicant believes that claims 1, 5 and 8 are in condition for allowance by the USPTO, in the present application.

The application is now believed to be in condition for allowance, and a notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Favorable consideration respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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